

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A high Cr Ni-based alloy filler material ~~comprising~~ consisting of, in percent by weight, C: more than 0% and 0.04% or less, Si: 0.01 to 0.5%~~[[.]]~~, Mn: more than 0% and 7% or less, Cr: 28 to 31.5%, Nb: more than 0% and 0.5% or less, Ta: 0.005 to 3.0%, Fe: 7 to 11%, Al: 0.01 to 0.4%, Ti: 0.01 to 0.45%, V: more than 0% and 0.5% or less, one or more elements selected from B, Zr and rare earth elements: more than 0% and 0.01% or less, Ca: more than 0% and 0.01% or less, Mg: more than 0% and 0.01% or less, and, as inevitable impurities, P: more than 0% and 0.02% or less, S: more than 0% and 0.015% or less, O: more than 0% and 0.01% or less, N: 0.002 to 0.1%, and the balance: Ni.

Claims 2 and 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A welding rod for shielded metal arc welding from which a weld metal can be formed, the weld metal ~~comprising~~ consisting of, in percent by weight, C: more than 0% and 0.04% or less, Si: 0.01 to 0.5%, Mn: more than 0% and 7% or less, Cr: 28 to 31.5%, Nb: more than 0% and 0.5% or less, Ta: 0.005 to 3.0%, Fe: 7 to 11%, V: more than 0% and 0.5% or less, one or more elements selected from B, Zr and rare earth elements: more than 0% and 0.01% or less, and as inevitable impurities, P: more than 0% and 0.02% or less, S: more than 0% and 0.015% or less, N: 0.002 to 0.1%, and the balance: Ni.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6: (Currently amended): A weld metal formed by shielded metal arc welding, ~~comprising~~ consisting of, in percent by weight, C: more than 0% and 0.04% or less, Si: 0.01 to 0.5%. Mn: more than 0% and 7% or less, Cr: 28 to 31.5%, Nb: more than 0% and 0.5% or less, Ta: 0.005 to 3.0%, Fe: 7 to 11%, V: more than 0% and 0.5% or less, one or more elements selected from B, Zr and rare earth elements: more than 0% and 0.01% or less, and as inevitable impurities, P: more than 0% and 0.02% or less, S: more than 0% and 0.015% or less, N: 0.002 to 0.1%, and the balance: Ni.

Claim 7 (Canceled).